

WASHINGTON- Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (NY-28) announced today that two organizations in her district will receive funding from the Department of Labor (DOL) to help struggling veterans get back on their feet through job training programs.

Goodwill Industries of Western New York will receive \$131,169 in third year funding from the DOL's Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP). In addition, The Veterans Outreach Center, in Rochester, was awarded \$300,000 from the HVRP and \$270,000 from the Veterans Workforce Investment Program (VWIP), both programs in their third year of funding.

These organizations will receive a third year of funding from the respective programs because they have proven an awareness of the areas and populations served and they have demonstrated that they can effectively administer federal funding and programs.

"This funding provides a pathway for homeless veterans to gain employment and live sustainable, more fulfilling lives," said Slaughter. "These grants are a validation of the good work being done by Goodwill of Western New York and the Veterans Outreach Center to better our Western New York communities. I will continue to stand by these innovative programs that pull our forgotten heroes out of the streets and into jobs."

The DOL grants to Western New York come as part of 122 grants totaling over \$28 million under the HVRP and 22 grants, totaling over \$7 million under the VWIP. According to the Department of Labor, these grants will provide approximately 21,000 veterans with job training.

"Goodwill Industries of Western New York is extremely pleased to continue serving the homeless Veterans of Western New York," said Dan Colpoys Director of Human Services for Goodwill Industries of Western New York. "Goodwill has helped dozens of homeless Veterans secure housing, case management assistance, and ultimately, employment over the past two years thanks to the funding of the Federal Department of Labor's Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program."

"We are honored to be selected for third-year funding for both our Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) and Veterans Workforce Investment Program (VWIP) employment resources for veterans," said Col. James D. McDonough (ret.) of the Veterans Outreach Center. "These resources are critical to our continued successful efforts to find veterans meaningful employment, especially in this very difficult economy, said Jim McDonough, President & CEO of Veterans Outreach Center, Inc."

The HVRP was created to provide services to help place homeless veterans into meaningful employment within the labor force and to stimulate the development of effective service delivery systems to address the complex problems facing homeless veterans.

The VWIP supports employment and training programs, through grants or contracts, to meet the

needs for workforce investment activities of veterans with service-connected disabilities, veterans who have significant barriers to employment, veterans who served on active duty in the armed forces during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized, and recently separated veterans. The program provides resources for training (formal classroom or on-the-job training), retraining, job placement assistance, and support services, including testing and counseling.

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